

Truckers Convoy and Protective Services

Key Messages for SSE – February 8, 2022 5:30 PM

- Good afternoon.
- I'll start by providing you with an update on the situation in Ottawa, and then speak to events in other areas of the country.
- As has been reported in the, Ottawa Police and Bylaw have increased enforcement activities since we met Sunday afternoon:
 - As of yesterday, 97 criminal offence investigations have been opened in relation to the demonstration, primarily for mischief, thefts, hate crimes and property damage. Not surprisingly, additional investigations and charges are pending.
 - Confederation Park has been cleared, fenced and the large structure has been moved. The situation remains stable.
 - Sunday night, Ottawa Police seized 3,200 litres of fuel being stored in the parking lot at Coventry Road. Multiple vehicles were also seized, and seven people were arrested.
- In terms of numbers, in Ottawa RCMP resources have been deployed as follows:
 - On a daily basis, there are 343-348 RCMP members on duty in the NCR fulfilling duties within the RCMP's mandate. The protest has resulted in an associated increase in the protective posture associated with the RCMP's mandate.
 - 50 RCMP resources have also been deployed in support of the OPS's mandate since this past weekend.

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- We are also working to deploy an additional 200 people to support the new plan that is being developed by the Ottawa Police and partners.
- The OPP is setting up an Integrated Planning Cell to review the Ottawa Police Service's current plan and confirm the number and type of resources required to assist. I have two RCMP members assigned to this Planning Cell. The team convened at 5PM at the RCMP National Headquarters.
- With respect to the situation in Ottawa, similar to last week, the number of demonstrators downtown has dropped from the weekend. As of 3:00 PM, there were no people visible on Parliament Hill, and about 75 on Wellington Street and surrounding area.
- An estimated 500 trucks are still in the downtown core, and I have been advised that police have facilitated the departure of 6 or 7 trucks today.
- The demonstration at the Winnipeg legislature is ongoing, but no events of significance to report. The driver from the hit-and-run incident I mentioned Sunday was arrested.
- The situation in Coutts, Alberta also persists. As of yesterday, there were a number of commercial vehicles lining the northbound and southbound lanes of highway 4.
- At checkpoint 10, the RCMP checkpoint 18 km north of Coutts, there were a number of vehicles including passenger and commercial vehicles, campers and tractors (total of over 350) and 400 people.
- There have been sporadic road blockages by the protestors throughout this event, and there was another 3-hour closure yesterday. However, my understanding is that traffic is now flowing again, one lane in each direction.
- We continue to engage both the protestors and the community members both at the main site and at checkpoint 10, and are working with the protestors and

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the community to develop a process to move the protestors at checkpoint 10 to an area that would allow them to have a legal protest, this would enhance police and public safety.

- As a result of the ongoing blockade near the Coutts land border crossing, the Acting Minister of Justice and Solicitor General of Alberta has declared an emergency as per the Police Service Agreement.
- Article 9.2 of the Police Service Agreements has been invoked to allocate additional resources to alleviate the extraordinary demand on the RCMP as the Provincial Police Service in Alberta, as a result of the ongoing blockade.
- Finally, there have been ongoing issues related to protestors at the Ambassador Bridge in Windsor. I will defer to my CBSA colleagues on the current status.
- The processes for accessing Parliament Hill and the Supreme Court last week remain in place for this week. So far there are no incidents to report.
- We continue to monitor for any changes in the threat level, and have increased patrols in some areas as a precautionary measure.
- Thank you.

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